

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 94 16:38:55 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #819
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Wed, 20 Jul 94 Volume 94 : Issue 819

Today's Topics:

 31 Weeks to Upgrade
 Connecticut QSO Party 30-31 July
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 FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!!
 License arrived...
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 QST Article on NiCd ZAPPING, 2/80 p.35!
 QST on News Stands?
 Reviving old NiCads (2 msgs)
 TrakSat Problem
 VE8 HF/VHF beacon
 WEFAX from PYE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PT AM 10DYV Receiver?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 20 Jul 94 22:21:07 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: 31 Weeks to Upgrade
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I passed the exams for Extra on December 11, 1993 (Yes, that's 1993) and
finally received the upgrade on July 14, 1994. That's one half of a year
plus 5 weeks. 7 months or 32 weeks. Glad to see that the new licensees are
getting their initial ticket a little sooner than that now and that perhaps
improvement is on the way.

73 de KJ5MX
NASA
Johnson Space Center

Date: 20 Jul 1994 12:54:50 GMT
From: spool.mu.edu!agate!soda.berkeley.edu!remailer@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Connecticut QSO Party 30-31 July
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) will sponsor the 1994 Connecticut QSO party, to be held 30 JUL 2000 to 31 JUL 0400 UTC and 31 JUL 1200-2000 UTC. Bands will be 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 & 2m. Stations may be worked once per mode on each band. CARA will operate W1AW (the ARRL station Hiram Maxim memorial station) on Sunday, 31 JUL. As well the club station, W1QI, will operate throughout the contest.

Plaques will be awarded to first place CT stations for several categories. Certificates will be awarded first place stations in other states, as well as second and third place in all states.

To all those who participate, good luck. To those that don't, if you hear a station calling CQ Connecticut QSO Party, by all means, pick up the mike and reply!

For an operating package, contact Frank, N8WXQ, (address in Callbook).

73 DE N1QNK
Jim
shipment of dont kill the president
nitroglycerin larry wall

For more information about this anonymous posting service, please send mail to remailer@soda.berkeley.edu with Subject: remailer-info.

To respond to the sender of this message, send mail to remailer@soda.berkeley.edu, starting your message with the following 7 lines:

::
Response-Key: ideaclipper

====Encrypted-Sender-BEGIN====
MI@``\$IS^P;+]AB?X9TW6\8W2:RP&2')84/Z#14\$C5;-95QGPY4+78S%F1MA
B"7:FXIELRQM@3YT!.IM6!+Y"L/\$/)::4%6\$D\Y'[ALB=NP`V
====Encrypted-Sender-End====

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 1994 03:55:25 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!eff!
news.kei.com!uhog.mit.edu!news.media.mit.edu!news.media.mit.edu.!
sro@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Elmers, please read
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> I heard (but didn't answer) a number of CQ's where the 'CQ' sounded
> like N N M A, and the callsign absolutely couldn't be parsed.

Hey Greg, no big deal. Those novices are just trying to emulate the
fist of old farts sending with bugs :)

While you're at it, ask the Elmers to check *their* sending. I was
listening in the Extra portion of 40M the other day, and I got stuck
listening to this guy sending CQ. I think it was the same instinct
that makes you slow down and look at accidents...

This guy(?) was sending your standard "samba CQ" (daaaaaah dit daaaaaah
dit daaaaah daaaaah dit daaaaaaaaah -- swing your hips as you read it).
Then he got to his call. daaaaaaaaah dit daah. That was at about 20
WPM. Then the number. Four dits at 50 WPM, a pause, and then a 10
WPM dah. Etcetera.

Bad fists can be found anywhere from the Novice band to the TCC (the
alleged creme-de-la-creme of traffic handlers.) The problem isn't the
technology. The problem isn't the intelligence of the operators.
It's their egos. Telling a ham you can't understand what he or she is
sending a sure way to insult them, same as saying "Hey, you're ugly!"

How come there's no Q-signal, like QFS, for "Your fist sucks/Does my
fist suck?" I bet I'm not alone in having blamed QRN, QRM & QSB for
being unable to copy what people are sending. Too bad there's no easy
way to get the message across... Maybe 00s send notices to people
with illegible fists?

With these newfangled digital signal processing systems, it should be
easy to print out a report on someone's fist

Your fist--

nominal speed:	10	
variance in dit length	0%	what you'd expect if someone's using
variance in dah length	0%	a keyer--straight key or bug would differ
variance in letter		

spacing	20%
variance in word	
spacing	40%

And then you could give a graphical depiction of what the code looks like: ----- ----- ----- (a lopsided K)

--Shawn

(10 years and counting, not one Morse sending error. But then I may get back on HF soon...)

Date: 20 Jul 94 10:38:02 -0500
From: europa.eng.gtefsd.com!ulowell!woods.uml.edu!martinja@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Elmers, please read
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <SR0.94Jul19225525@media-lab.media.mit.edu>, sro@media.mit.edu (Shawn O'Donnell) writes:

Quoting Greg...

>> I heard (but didn't answer) a number of CQ's where the 'CQ' sounded
>> like N N M A, and the callsign absolutely couldn't be parsed.

Shawn says...

> Hey Greg, no big deal. Those novices are just trying to emulate the
> fist of old farts sending with bugs :)

Not so oh wise one. Many folks coming into amateur radio today are not trying to emulate anyone. They have minds of their own and the whole world is a Burger King. They want it THEIR way. They don't need Elmers anymore...Elmers are all old farts. What do they know? They're all pro-code, keep it that way forever conservatives.

Any so called "old farts" you are hearing, nowadays, are those who managed to squeak by on the code exam and pass the Extra written after 72 tries of taking every exam the VE teams (team hopping) have available. And this is all during one two week period! [Not my experience...I'm a VE and a young Old Fart]

> While you're at it, ask the Elmers to check *their* sending. I was
> listening in the Extra portion of 40M the other day, and I got stuck
> listening to this guy sending CQ. I think it was the same instinct
> that makes you slow down and look at accidents...

Same folks...

[snip, snip]

> Bad fists can be found anywhere from the Novice band to the TCC (the
> alleged creme-de-la-creme of traffic handlers.) The problem isn't the
> technology. The problem isn't the intelligence of the operators.
> It's their egos. Telling a ham you can't understand what he or she is
> sending a sure way to insult them, same as saying "Hey, you're ugly!"

I like it better when someone tells me I'm fat. THEN, I tell them they're ugly
and that I can lose weight. (Shades of Sir Winston).
But what you are saying is true. Again, their world is one big Burger King.
Everyone wants it their way. There's no such thing as constructive criticism
anymore. The pilot lights to everyone's flame throwers are always lit too.
Especially on the information superhighway.

> How come there's no Q-signal, like QFS, for "Your fist sucks/Does my
> fist suck?"

ROTFLMAO!!! I love this one Shawn!!! This is great! Can I use it in my next
cw QSO?... QFS, QRK MINUS 1 73 SK DE WK1V (Electronic keyer used here)

[Back in me Novice days cw ops used to ask me what kind of keyer I was using
whilst I was using a straight key] ask AA4GZ; when he was KQ5I he was always
asking. Now I am ashamed to say that after 12 years of using an electronic
keyer....My straight key sending sucks. I can almost make it sound as if I
was using a bug, it's readable but too many errors.....Yuk!

> I bet I'm not alone in having blamed QRN, QRM & QSB for being unable to copy
> what people are sending.

No you're not alone Shawn. Why just the other day....

> Too bad there's no easy way to get the message across... Maybe 00s send
> notices to people with illegible fists?

[Vewy, vewy tactfuwee mind you. Hehehehe hehehehe].....Elmer

But good idea.

Hope to BCNU back on HF. (QFS.....ROTFL) &D

73 de WK1V
-jim-

ROTFLMAO = Rolling on the floor laughing my ass off

{For those still learning}

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 21:50:57 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.ess.harris.com!
jabba.ess.harris.com!mlb.semi.harris.com!controls.ccd.harris.com!
bal@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: FCC Delays now at 17 weeks! PLEASE READ!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Joe Salemi (jsalemi@doghouse.win.net) wrote:

:
: Well, recent reports on Compuserve have shown that folks who took their
: tests in mid-April are starting to receive their licenses. That's
: about 12 weeks, give or take, so maybe the logjam is finally breaking.

Robert D. Novak (bnovak@kaiwan.com) wrote:

:
: I teach a monthly no-code license class and my March class just got their
: licenses. The wait: 14 weeks 3 days.

I passed the Extra on April 16, received my license today (July 18). That works out to about 13 weeks 2 days. Interesting was the fact that it was dated July 9th. I guess the extra delay was due to the printer malfunction mentioned in another thread.

73, Bruce AD4TG

--

Bruce Lifter
Harris Corporation
Controls Division

MS: R5-202
email: blifter@ccd.harris.com

Date: 20 Jul 94 21:06:00 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: License arrived...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Another trivial data point:

My girlfriend's license arrived in the mail yesterday (19-Jul-94) after 15 weeks 4 days.

Callsign is KC7DPQ for those trying to predict thier own callsign...

Anecdote:

When I first became interested in amateur radio (1968) the average turnaround time was 4 to 6 weeks. Then the 55 mile-per-hour speed limit was jammed down the country's throat, CB became the most effective and popular way to circumvent enforcement of the 55 mph limit, Part 95 license applications swamped the FCC forcing them to get multiple P. O. Boxes (some dedicated to individual services) and the wait slogged down to (GASP!) 9 weeks which is the to-the-day time period I "endured" waiting for my license. Now we have a 65 mph speed limit, no more multiple P. O. Boxes to force the Post Office to do the sorting for the FCC, and a 17 week waiting period. It's typical that a function of the government is not the least bit predictable from just the data.

And George Bush isn't responsible for screwing the FCC up any more than any other administration. LIBERAL and CONSERVATIVE administrations alike have slit the throat of the FCC in a manner not unlike killing the controllers of the messengers because of the messages.

Reid,
WB7CJO

Date: 20 Jul 1994 11:38:07 -0400
From: newstf01.cr1.aol.com!search01.news.aol.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: NASA 25th Moon Landing Special Station
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <30jdiv\$5gn@blkbox.blkbox.COM>, guillory@blkbox.com (George Guillory) writes:

>Can anyone please send the me freqs for the JSC station participating in
>the 25th Anniv. Moon Landing?

I worked W5RRR (Johnson Space Center in Houston) Tuesday evening on 14238.

Danny Goodman AE9F/6

Date: 20 Jul 1994 13:21:16 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!
news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!cville-srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: QST Article on NiCd ZAPPING, 2/80 p.35!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Someone was asking about zapping NiCds.

Don't ask me why, but I was flipping through Feb. '80 QST and happened to see an article about NiCd zapping - thought I'd read what they thought in 1980.

So now I see someone's looking for info...

Very strange. 0000ooooooooohhhhhhhhhh...

Scott NF3I Low voltage and high current to zap a Nicad,

I can send or fax copy of article if you need.

--

73,

----- The
 \ / Long Original
Scott Rosenfeld Amateur Radio NF3I Burtonsville, MD | Live \$5.00
WAC-CW/SSB WAS DXCC - 130 QSLed on dipoles -----| Dipoles! Antenna!

Date: 20 Jul 1994 15:29:11 GMT
From: news.larc.nasa.gov!eos1.larc.nasa.gov!eckman@uunet.uu.net
Subject: QST on News Stands?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

A magazine store in Norfolk has the new newstand edition of QST now. It has somewhat more text on the cover in a large font, supposedly a more commercial look. However, this store has stocked QST for many years, when it wasn't being distributed to mainstream newstands.

I haven't yet seen it in the racks of any other stores with magazine selections, like Waldenbooks. I, too, wonder if it will manage to compete with CQ and 73 as far as newstand sales are concerned.

Richard Eckman K04MR
NASA Langley
eckman@eos1.larc.nasa.gov

Date: 20 Jul 94 07:24:24 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!
newsrelay.iastate.edu!news.iastate.edu!tremple.gis.iastate.edu!
willmore@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Reviving old NiCads

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

cripps@hk.net (David Cripps) writes:

>I remember in the dim and distant past, an article explaining how to revive
>"dead" NiCads (Not just ones with a poor memory)

>I think it was something along the lines of applying an overvoltage!

For a NiCd battery that shows a terminal voltage of 0V and acts like a dead short, there only one thing that I know to do to 'restore' the battery. Take a larger size fully charged NiCd cell (do this a cell at a time) and connect it in parallel with the damaged cell for a second. Repeat this until the cell 'breaks loose'. If it recovers, charge it nicely and cross your fingers. This will resotre it to use, but the capacity will be decreased and the (already high) self discharge rate will increase.

>Anyone else know the trick or do I threw my old NiCads away and start again.

Given what I've said above, I say, junk the darn things and get new cells. Donate the cells to a younger/poorer ham that wants to give it a try. (How do you think I learned to do this? ;) At \$1.20 each for generic 600mA cells and ~\$2.00 for 850mA cells, what's the point of messing with dead cells only to be able to restore them to poor condition? Forget it, ditch the old cells (dispose of them properly) and get new ones.

Buy them in groups, discharge them in the same groups, charge them in the same groups, etc. Never break up a group. If you C/10 charge, expect 1000 cycles is you discharge to .9V/cell. If you C/1 charge, expect 300+ cycles.

Best of luck.

Cheers,

David

--

willmore@iastate.edu | "Death before dishonor" | "Better dead than greek" |
David Willmore | "Ever noticed how much they look like orchids? Lovely!" |

Date: 20 Jul 1994 10:25:12 -0400

From: news1.digex.net!digex.net!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Reviving old NiCads

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <cripps.1.0011F98A@hk.net>, David Cripps wrote:

> I remember in the dim and distant past, an article explaining how to revive
> "dead" NiCads (Not just ones with a poor memory)

>

> I think it was something along the lines of applying an overvoltage!

>

> Anyone else know the trick or do I threw my old NiCads away and start again.

>

> Dave

In Hints and Kinks by the ARRL a few years ago, an article by a British ham described how to revive a Nicad by adding distilled water. He drilled a small hole thru the center of the anode. He inserted a syringe needle thru the whole thru the rubber pressure seal and added about 3 ml of distilled water to a AA size nicad. The rubber pressure seal supposedly closes enough to prevent a leak. The battery is allowed to sit overnite while the water disperses into the battery. He then recharged it to near full capacity.

I tried this myself and surprisingly, it works. You don't get the full rating you had before but I got about another year of good use for my HT nicads. They were 5 years old and wouldn't hold a charge. The author of the article stated the batteries dry out and adding real electrolyte would be better but said the distilled water was good enough. I haven't done it since, I like a rotating my nicads every 3 years now for reliability.

Andy N3LCW

Date: 20 Jul 1994 08:54:34 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.umbc.edu!eff!neoucom.edu!news.ysu.edu!yfn.ysu.edu!ar098@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: TrakSat Problem

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am having the following problem with the TrakSat program I am trying out.

I am unable to get it to accept updated Kelps.

I am getting me Kelps from the Internet and I edit out any Headers and junk, make sure its in ASCII text, and give it the correct file name of tle.txt. I think I am doing it correctly.

Any suggestions that could help?

I want to get the program 100% before I decide to register it.

Thanks

Tim Wright KD40VM

T.Wright@msuacad.morehead-st.edu

Date: 20 Jul 1994 08:32:45 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!pipex!lyra.csx.cam.ac.uk!doc.ic.ac.uk!uknet!keele!
potter!poa01@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: VE8 HF/VHF beacon
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The expedition beacon on Ellesmere Island, VE8RAF, is now operating to a schedule of 1 day on 10metres followed by two days on 6 metres. So on 20 July it will be on 10 and on 21 and 22 on 6; 23 on 10 and 24/25 on 6 and so on until approximately 5 August when the expedition ends.

The beacon frequencies are 28192.5 and 50018. Cycle is a long series of dots with ID approximately every 3 minutes. If you hear either beacon at any time please let me know by direct e-mail.

The expedition is active daily, mainly on 20m cw under the same callsign. It also has a 50MHz transceiver.

Martin G3USF

Date: 18 Jul 94 03:40:50 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!
news.umbc.edu!hookup!reptiles.org!geac!herboid!cattnts!ncrcan!coutts!
wwg@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: WEFAX from PYE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PT AM 10DYV Receiver?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The issue: Can this receiver work at 137+ Mhz?

I have a PYE aircraft AM transceiver, that was modified to be a RX only unit (which is fine), using the two crystal sockets for two different receive frequencies, since the TX crystal is no longer needed.

The current crystals cause the receiver to receive 123.2 and 122.8 Mhz at the moment. I want to receive the NOAA satellite WEFAX signals on 137.5 and 137.62 Mhz using this old receiver. The crystals currently in there are in the:

$(123.2 - 10.7) / 3 = 37.5$ Mhz neighbourhood (this is verified).

The 137.5 Mhz freq requires a 42.26666 Mhz crystal.

The receiver details:

PYE TELECOMMUNICATIONS Model PT AM 10DYV

Serial 1944D, input 12 Volts, and has 4 tubes, of which none are required for receiving (receiver works with switch on standby, without lighting the tube filaments).

It seems a bit of a stretch to go from a 37.5 Mhz crystal to 42.266 Mhz, but there is a series connected inductor that is tunable (at least in the current rendition of its wiring -- I don't have a schematic, so I don't know if this is original or not).

I'm not sure how fussy the front end in this radio is... I doubt any serious problem there. Again with no schematic, and without having done much tracing from the antenna yet, it's my opinion that there is not much "tuned circuit" to discriminate 137 Mhz from 120 Mhz.

Anybody familiar (or not) with this radio, or someone with access to its schematic wish to comment on this? I'll have to get crystal(s) made to try this, which is the reason for this post. Should I invest/waste my money on crystals for this end?

Of course, I'm assuming that NOAA signals are AM audio signals. However, if this should turn out to be FM instead-- no big deal. I can build a demod circuit after the IF section. Email preferred, thanks.

Warren W. Gay VE3WWG

John Coutts Library Services Limited

wwg@coutts.UUCP

Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

(or wwg%coutts@uunet.ca, wwg%coutts@uunet.uu.net)

Date: Wed, 20 Jul 1994 12:10:28 GMT

From: psinntp!darkstar!elt@uunet.uu.net

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <Ct19p1.vo@world.std.com>, <vaughnwt.30.000E6B02@olympus.net>,
<1994Jul19.014211.4853@ulb.rit.edu>

Subject : Re: Is there an ATV newsgroup?

In article <1994Jul19.014211.4853@ulb.rit.edu> jdc3538@ulb.rit.edu (J.D. Cronin) writes:

>In article <vaughnwt.30.000E6B02@olympus.net> vaughnwt@olympus.net (William Vaughn) writes:

>>>Mont Pierce (montp@vortex.eng.sc.rolm.com) wrote:

>>>: In <CssM0y.995@sunsrvr6.cci.com>, James D. Cronin <jdc@cci.com> wrote:

>>>: >How about it guys? We got rec.radio.amateur.everything-else...

>>>: >How about an ATV newsgroup? Any interest?

>>>: >73...Jim N2VNO
>>>: Definitely interested!! In the mean time, are there any atv mailing
>>>: lists?
>>>: tnx & 73
>>>: km6wt
>>>Me, too ... great idea.
>>>|David R. Tucker KG2S 8P9CL drt@world.std.com|
>>Sounds good to me too.
>>William Vaughn vaughnwt@olympus.net "Just plain Bill."
>
>Sounds like interest to me. Ed, elt@irony.com sorta volunteered to
>get an ATV mail list going. How 'bout it, Ed.
>
>73...Jim N2VNO

Hi Jim, what I said was that I'd do it if 10 people in the world
cared ... So far only three people have written to say they'd like
one. While I'm personally disappointed at the yawning enthusiasm for
ATV, I will create the list anyway. I don't think it will take much
of my time to administer :-(Sometime next week I will post info
on subscribing and take steps to advertise the list.

- Ed. (ATV: Amateur Radio's loneliest mode ...)

--

Ed Taychert | Disclaimer: I pay for the machine, I pay for the
elt@irony.com | connection, surely I'll pay for writing this too.

Date: 20 Jul 1994 13:46:03 GMT
From: newsgate.watson.ibm.com!watnews.watson.ibm.com!vinod@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <30bqcb\$lot@nntp.club.cc.cmu.edu>, <30hec6\$inu@wizard.uark.edu>,
<30i5cl\$hp5@edwin.bga.com>
Reply-To : vinod@watson.ibm.com
Subject : Re: *finally it arrived* (but why no plus?)

|> the idea..) I thought I saw someone saying that the new licenses are
|> already coming out with "Tech Plus", maybe I was wrong. But if it hasn't
|> already started, it's soon to come...

I know one person who has gotten a licence which says "Tech Plus", about
a month back. I have asked the VEC to send in my 610 for the 5wpm test,
(since I just got the no-code tech at the first test), I will know
in about 14 weeks whether they are going to issue me a new "tech plus"

licence.

--

--vinod

email: vinod@watson.ibm.com

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #819
